Dewan.—This is a question of funds, and until our finances improve these suggestions cannot be entertained.

SUBJECT No. 48.

Reduction of College fees.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore University.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—In our Colleges and High Schools, fees are very heavy and consequently many cannot acquire higher education. In some of the colleges in Western countries no fees are levied. Their idea of opening college classes is to impart education free so that it may widely spread. It should be the aim of the Government to spread education throughout the State and they can achieve this object only by abolishing fees in all the Colleges and High Schools. If this is not practicable, at least these fees may be reduced by half. It was the ardent wish of our late beloved Maharaja Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar to give free education to the people. The Government should consider whether the masses are in a position to pay high fees. It is a known fact that most of the people are very poor. I therefore request that fees in Colleges and High Schools may be reduced by half.

Dewan.—The present rates of fees in Colleges and High Schools are very low when compared to those prevailing elsewhere. The proposal therefore cannot be favourably considered at present.

SUBJECT No. 49.

Control over High Schools.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore University.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—According to the present arrangement, all the High Schools are under the control of the Education Department and Colleges under the University. Though all those who pass the School Final course do not continue their studies, yet there are many who continue further. The Department is capable of prescribing various curricula, courses, etc., but the University should generally lay the foundation from the IV Form. The foundation should be laid on solid basis and only the University can do it. I have consulted some of the members of the University Council and most of them are agreeable to this proposal.

Mr. R. Gopalswami Iyer.—The Madras University has been in existence for the last sixty-four years, and they have not on any occasion suggested the abolition of the post of the Director of Public Instruction. It is only about four years since the Mysore University came into existence, and it is rather surprising to find that the University has no objection to abolish the post of Inspector-General of Education and transfer the control over education in all grades to them. Primary education is a very big matter, and if a solid foundation should be given, it should be given from the very outset. There is no use in giving a superficial foundation in the High School classes. Primary class is the foundation, High School the structure and College class the superstructure. A successful Vice-Chancellor may prove an utter failure as an administrator. University education is very costly and unless the University can find funds to maintain all these classes, there would be absolutely no use in transferring these schools to them. I therefore oppose the proposal.

Mr. G. Paramasivaiya.—Even the Calcutta University Commission have recommended that the University should have no control over the Primary and High Schools. If the University is competent enough to find sufficient funds and maintain them I have no objection to the control over the Education Department being transferred to the University.